To: Fritz, Matthew[Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov]
Cc: Natarajan, Nitin[Natarajan.Nitin@epa.gov]
From: Stanislaus, Mathy
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 4:15:16 PM
Subject: bio and answer to questions

David Ostrander

Mr. Ostrander earned a Bachelors Degree in Geological Engineering from Colorado School of Mines. He worked for 9 years in the oil and mining industries before joining EPA Region 8 in 1991. David has worked as a Remedial Project Manager in Superfund, served as Brownfields Coordinator for 4 years, spent 3 years in the regional lab as Lab Director and has been the Director of the Emergency Response and Preparedness Program in Region 8 for nearly 10 years and serves as the Region 8 Regional Response Team (RRT) co-chair. He has overseen several high profile emergency responses in Region 8 and supported EPA HQ during Hurricane Sandy.

Can we explain why a mobile lab won't help?

EPA does not own/operate a mobile lab that can perform all of the analysis requested on the water samples. The request from Region 6 was for a lab that could do bio and chem. Please let me know if you need more detail. From our searches, we don't know of a mobile lab that can do both.

Deliberative Process/Ex. 5

Yes there are similar actions that have been completed with remedies that are operating successfully by removing and treating contaminated water from mine sites.

If asked what do I say about a timeline for a comprehensive cleanup plan?

A scientifically-based approach for future monitoring—that is monitoring that is done after the emergency response transitions to environmental monitoring—will be developed to track ecosystem status or recovery if there have been adverse impacts. The monitoring plan will identify decisions that are to be made and what data is necessary to make these decisions. The plan will denote several locations for sampling sediments and water throughout the impacted river system, including the Animas and San Juan Rivers. EPA will use the available historical pre-blowout data for sediment and water to serve as a baseline or reference point to address the question on whether any impacts from the blowout have passed. The monitoring plan will be designed to address this question and other decisions important to EPA, states, tribes and the public. The plan will be initially implemented over several weeks and will be updated based on input from stakeholders. The comparison of the monitoring results to pre-incident data will be a critical determinant for decision-making. This is based on existing guidance in the Superfund program that outlines several key questions that should be considered for a sediment monitoring program that focus on its purpose, sampling and analysis details, temporal and spatial scales for the sampling, development of indicators for action, if warranted, or termination of the program, and communication of the results with the public. This guidance - Contaminated Sediment Remediation Guidance for Hazardous Waste Sites (EPA-540-R-05-012, OSWER 9355.0-85, 2005) was developed to provide technical and policy guidance for project managers and management teams making remedy decisions for contaminated sediment sites.

How are we managing the review and interpretation of data?

As agreed to by HQ EOC, UAC, Regions 6, 8 and 9, the regional EOC environmental units (EU) will follow the data format used during the Deepwater Horizon response (since staff were also involved in that response, this format will be familiar to them) and will conduct validation on data collected and analyzed during the response. We agreed to expedite and align the process for data validation by having each environmental unit in each of regional EOCs validate and then send such data with interpretations to UAC simultaneous with HQ EOC. UAC would review the data and interpretation with all participants in UAC, HQ EOC would simultaneously review the data and work with UAC on final interpretation. ORD would be engaged via this process. Messaging would be developed through PIO working in coordination with PIO in HQ EOC. Once completed data and interpretation/messaging would be conveyed through UAC. Data displays for key chemicals of concern, GIS overlays, and a color coding chart will be part of the data packages. The UAC PIO will post the data on the EPA Gold King Mine website. Notification prior to posting will be made via the UAC to States, Tribes, and congressional contacts and the HQ EOC. Trending messages will also be developed once there is sufficient data for the analysis.

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